

Service Date: January 6, 2003

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF The Application of Cut)	UTILITY DIVISION
Bank Gas Company for Authority to Increase)	DOCKET NO. D2003.1.1
Charges for Natural Gas Service.)	INTERIM ORDER NO. 6471

INTERIM ORDER

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Effective December 12, 2002, Commission Order No. 6468 granted North Western Energy Company (NWE) an interim natural gas rate increase and authorized the increase to be flowed through to Cut Bank Gas Company (CBG).
2. CBG has requested authority to increase rates to it's customers in order to reflect all cost increases granted to NWE in Order No. 6468.
3. Order No. 6468 results in higher purchased gas costs to CBG.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

1. CBG is a "public utility" within the meaning of Section 69-3-101, MCA.
2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the CBG's Montana operations pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.

ORDER

1. CBG is hereby granted relief reflecting Findings of Fact in this order.
 2. Such relief is to become effective for services rendered on and after December 15, 2002 and remain in effect until such time as this order is superceded.
 3. The rates shall be collected upon a constant uniform cents per Mcf basis.
- Approved by staff action, January 3, 2003 (per delegation by PSC).